

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-14 (Canceled)

15. (New) A colloidal dispersion comprising particles of a cerium compound, an acid and an organic phase, and comprising a compound of at least one element selected from the group consisting of rhodium and palladium.

16. (New) The dispersion as claimed in claim 15, comprising particles of a compound of cerium and of another rare earth.

17. (New) The dispersion as claimed in claim 16, wherein it comprises particles of a compound of cerium, of another rare earth, and of iron.

18. (New) The dispersion as claimed in claim 17, wherein the element is presets a content of not more than 5% with respect to the combination of the elements cerium, other rare earth and iron of the particles.

19. (New) The dispersion as claimed in claim 17, wherein the content of the element is not more than 0.5% with respect to the combination of the elements cerium, other rare earth and iron of the abovementioned particles.

20. (New) The dispersion as claimed in claim 15, wherein the compound of the element is bound to the particles.

21. (New) The dispersion as claimed in claim 17, wherein cerium is present in a proportion of not more than 50%, optionally not more than 20% in moles of

cerium oxide  $\text{CeO}_2$  with respect to the total number of moles of cerium oxide and iron oxide  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ .

22. (New) The dispersion as claimed in claim 16, wherein the other rare earth is lanthanum or praseodymium.

23. (New) The dispersion as claimed in claim 15, wherein the acid is an amphiphilic acid.

24. (New) The dispersion as claimed in claim 15, wherein at least 90% of the particles are single crystal particles.

25. (New) The dispersion as claimed in claim 15, wherein the particles have a  $d_{50}$  of between 1 and 5 nm, optionally between 2 and 4 nm.

26. (New) A method for preparing a dispersion as claimed in claim 15, comprising the steps of:

a) preparing an aqueous mixture comprising at least one cerium salt, optionally a salt of a rare earth other than cerium and an iron salt, and a salt of at least one element selected from the group consisting of rhodium and palladium;

b) contacting the aqueous mixture of step (a) with a basic medium to form a reaction mixture whose pH is maintained at a basic pH, thereby producing a precipitate; and

c) the precipitate obtained in step b) is contacted with the acid and the organic phase, to obtain an organic colloidal dispersion.

27. (New) A fuel additive for internal combustion engines comprising a colloidal dispersion as defined in claim 15.

**Docket Number RN03122**  
**Preliminary Amendment**  
**PCT application date**

28. (New) A fuel for internal combustion engines, obtained by mixing a standard fuel with a colloidal dispersion as claimed in claim 15.